A. WHAT US ~~OBJECTIVES~~ INTERESTS ARE AT STAKE IN SVN?

1. Why do we care what happens in SVN--enough to send our troops and planes?

2. What ~~the~~ are the interests and objectives of NVN in SVN? Of the Chicoms? Of the Soviet Union? How do these relate to US interests?

3. What is the nature of the US commitment to the defense of SVN? How did it evolve; what would be the consequences of ignoring it now?

4. How are developments in SVN--and our performance there--related to US interests in SEA? In Asia? Worldwide?

5. How is this form of ~~aggression~~ aggression related to past forms?

B. What is the nature of the war inside SVN?

THE VIET CONG AND NVN

1. How big is the opponent? What is the strength, by type, of the VC, and VC organisation? What are the sources of expansion, and trends of growth?

2. Who are the VC? Why do they join, and why do they fight?

3. What are the objectives, the tactics and the targets of the VC: in terrorism; in guerrilla warfare?

4. What are the roles of the: main force units; guerrilla irregulars; infrastructure; NLF?

5. How does NVN direct and support the insurgency? How critical are its various roles? What could NVN do to reduce the insurgency?

6. How have VC strength, tactics and expectations evolved over time?

7. What are the most recent forms of the VC campaign?

8. What is the extent of VC "control"? What is the meaning of "control"; how is it achieved and maintained? How can it be broken?

9. What are the attitudes of various SVN groups to the VC/NLF?

THE GVN/RVNAF AND THE US

8. What are the military resources of the GVN in countering the VC?

9. How has ARVN/RF/PF strength increased over time?

10. How do the GVN forces compare numerically to the VC: overall; in combat battalions?

11. Why is a great preponderance of force needed to counter a guerrilla threat?

12. What kinds of forces and tactics are needed to combat terrorism? Guerrilla war?

12. Why are US forces needed, at this particular time?

13. What will be the range of activities of US military personnel, in general, and combat units in particular?

14. What jobs can US troops expect to do effectively in this type of war?

15. What will be the command relationship of US forces and the RVNAF?

THE POLITICAL/ECONOMIC WAR

15. What non-military activities are relevant to success in this war? What is the VC doing? What does the GVN need to do?

16. How is the US contributing to these non-military efforts?

17. Why have not these programs been more successful? What is their relation to the military efforts and the problem of security?

18. What are the political risks and costs of large US troop invovement in SVN? How can these be limited? (Can we do better than the French?)

C. What is the US doing to achieve its objectives?

D. WHAT ARE THE PRACTICAL AIMS OF OUR EFFORTS?

1. What are the immediate aims of the VC? What are their hopes of success?

2. What are the ~~xx~~ goals of our present bombing campaign in NVN? How successful have we been? What are the prospects for success?
--What are the immediate aims of our efforts within SVN?
3. How might the effectiveness of our efforts in SVN be measured?

4. What would be our aims in negotiations? What ~~xx~~ would be some crucial characteristics of an acceptable settlement?
5. What is the attitude of NVN toward negotiations? Under what conditions might they be interested in negotiating a settlement acceptable to the GVN and US? How could our efforts bring that about?
6. What are some limits on our objectives?
7. What considerations lead to restraint in our operations and aims? and the success
8. What developments would affect the necessary size/of our efforts in SVN and NVN?